(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Government has allowed the conversion of a portion of TPDS wheat into atta for distribution to ration cardholders through fair price shops in the N.E. and Hilly States and distribution of fortified atta in other States subject to certain terms and conditions *vide* guidelines issued on 21.12.2005. So far permission for implementing the scheme has been given to the States of H.P., Tripura, Meghalaya, Assam, Mizoram, Sikkim, West Bengal (Darjeeling Distt.) and Andhra Pradesh.

(c) and (d) The Government of Kerala has recently requested for allowing the conversion of TPDS wheat into atta for supply to ration cardholders in the State.

Procurement and Import of Wheat

† 1831. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the stock of wheat in tonnes in the godowns of F.C.I. as on 1st April, 2006;

(b) the total quantity of wheat purchased by the F.C.I, from the farmers in the year 2006-07 alongwith the price thereof;

(c) whether procurement of wheat in the year 2005-06 stood at 147.87 lakh tonnes;

(d) the total procurement of wheat from the farmers by the multinationals as well as private traders in the year 2006,

(e) the total quantity of wheat decided by Government to be imported from abroad; and

(f) the quantity of wheat reached the harbours of the country in the months of June-July, 2006 alongwith the names of these harbours?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH):

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) The stocks of wheat in the Central Pool as on 1st April, 2006, was 20,09,000 tonnes.

(b) 92.26 lakh tonnes of wheat was purchased by the FCI and Government agencies in the Rabi Marketing Season 2006-07 at the Minimum Support Price of Rs. 650/- per quintal and a bonus of Rs. 50/-per qtl. above the MSP.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) This data is not maintained in this Department.

(e) Import contracts for 35 lakh tonnes of wheat on Government account have been finalized, and an additional tender for 4 lakh tonnes has been issued.

(f) Only one vessel carrying 39,339 MTs of wheat arrived on 30.7.2006 at Tuticorin port in the period June-July, 2006.

Difference between consumer purchase price and farmer's selling price

† 1832. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that producing farmer is getting only about 24 per cent to 58 per cent of consumer purchase price in the country,

(b) if not, the facts in this regard and Government's estimation in the above matter; and

(c) whether a decision has been taken by Government to abridge the gap between consumer purchase price and producers selling price by improving the market system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has informed that studies indicate that the share of producers varies from 56% to 88% in foodgrains, 78% to 95% in pulses, 65% to 96% in oilseeds and 33% to 75% in case of fruits and vegetables.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.